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REMARKS*Amendments to the Claims*

Applicant's Attorneys would like to thank Examiner Strzelecka for her helpful suggestions in the telephonic interview on May 17, 2005. Applicant has amended Claims 23, 25-27, 59, 62 and 67 according to Applicant's Attorneys' discussion with the Examiner. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the Specification, for example, page 4, line 20 through page 5, line 6 describes "two or more point mutations" and describes how such an identification would identify alleles with a high probability of causing mortal disease; page 8, lines 22-25 describe genes that affect the incidence of disease; and page 30, lines 3-5 in which gene-inactivating mutations define increased likelihood of mortal disease. No new matter has been added. Entry of these amendments and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

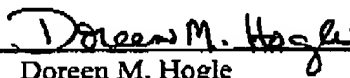
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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